

March 5th, 2021

Dear Chairman Abney and members of the House Finance Committee:

I am writing in support of Speaker Shekarchi's Bill, H5223, which would allow the State of RI to enter into a long-term economic development agreement with IGT and Twin River. I have been an IGT employee for **33 years** and would like to share with you why IGT's continued economic partnership with the state of Rhode Island is important to me, my colleagues, my family, and my community.

I believe the most important issue regarding extending the IGT contract has to do with jobs. I started my career at IGT working in an entry level position many years ago. IGT does a great job of promoting from within, and this has provided me and my colleagues the ability to enjoy a rewarding career while remaining in Rhode Island. There are not many options within our small state to work for a global company of our size and opportunity. Without companies like IGT, residents would be forced to work in neighboring states, or more likely relocate out of the state to pursue good paying jobs. And as one of the many employees who work at IGT, I and my colleagues contribute significantly to the Rhode Island economy.

IGT's proposal includes an economic development package and guaranty of 1,100 jobs in RI. In my opinion, going out to bid would not realistically provide this win-win opportunity for Rhode Island. These are high paying jobs that are difficult to find in our state, and there are only a limited number of companies like IGT in Rhode Island. If IGT were to relocate jobs to a lower cost location, IGT employees will be forced to look for employment in Boston or other locations outside of our state.

IGT is a Gaming company, but it's important to recognize that IGT is a Technology company at its core. Technology jobs are high paying jobs, and the type of employment opportunities that Rhode Island should be seeking for our state's economy. Please don't let IGT jobs go the way of manufacturing, textile and jewelry industry jobs from Rhode Island's past. Please keep IGT in Rhode Island!

I am asking that you please support IGT's continued partnership with the state by sending House Bill 5223 to the Senate chamber with a recommendation for passage.

Respectfully,

Allan Peters
Sr. Director – Global IT Services

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